

NJLA Diversity & Outreach Section Meeting
Hillsborough Public Library
July 26, 2018

Attendance: Jen Schureman (GCLS), Ally Blumenfeld (EPL), Cathy DeBerry (SCLSNJ/Hillsborough), Zoë Lopéz (Mary Jacobs Memorial), Selwa Shamy (SCLSNJ), Thalia Sweet (LBPL), Kate Angelo (LBPL), David Perez (LBPL).

Reports:

NJLA Executive Board: Jen relayed that the NJLA President Leah Wagner is reinstating 3 executive board committees: Organization, Budget, and Planning. Jen will be on the Organization committee which hopes to better improve the communication and relationship between the executive board and the committees and sections.

State Library: Mimi could not attend the meeting.

LLNJ: No report.

Diversity Conference:

Title: DO It Conference, held on Thursday, November 8th, 2018 at Raritan Valley Community College. MentorNJ tried to get funding to cover the cost of food for lunch, but was unable to secure the funds. The section decided it would be best to allot a little more time for lunch so that people can go out to eat if they would like or can bring a brown bag lunch. MentorNJ will provide 100 bottles of water (to be given out at registration). There was a very productive and elaborate discussion about the schedule and offerings for the day. When all was said and done, the timeline and programs for the day were all set and action items were assigned. All program descriptions will be sent to Jen by July 31st.

Continuing Education:

- ACA pop-up programs will be held in both the North and South in October
- Jen will reach out to MentorNJ about Outreach Librarian Meetup hopefully held at Monroe sometime in September
- Opioid Conversation Starter to be held in the winter (revisit planning in September)

Jen stated that they will begin the Bookmobile of the Month highlight in September beginning with Cape May County. Ally and Jen acknowledged that the Bookmobile Roundtable that was absorbed into the D&O section hasn't gotten much attention and we want to highlight what they do and their good work.

NJLA Conference 2018:

Everyone agreed that the conference went well, related to the section's involvement. Discussion about having more outside speakers at D&O programs ensued.

NJLA Strategic Plan:

Ally stated that she is on the subcommittee to find a Diversity Consultant. Her subcommittee came up with a list of possible candidates.

Leadership Meeting:

An NJLA Leadership Meeting was held at Monroe on June 23rd. The conference committee said they are changing the way they are allowing programs to be submitted. In addition to the fact that anyone can submit a program - it doesn't have to be submitted through a section or committee - now, there does not have to have one point person submitting on behalf of the section, but any member who takes the lead can submit it themselves.

A great discussion ensued in the Section group among section leadership. Sections have agreed to collaborate more and actually make co-sponsorship of programs more than just throwing a name onto something.

In-between Meetings:

Reminder to contribute to our D&O Twitter.

D&O Resource Page: Ally, Selwa, and Enola are currently the committee to work on keeping the page up to date.

Good of the Order:

Tonya Finney Estrada from Pennsauken Library had brought up the idea to have a drive for Puerto Rico at the next NJLA Conference. She is working on speaking with the appropriate people to get a list of items needed. We will also hold this drive at the Diversity Conference.

There was a vacancy in the D&O E-Board at the VP position. David Perez was nominated and the executive board unanimously voted him into the position. This left a vacant member-at-large position which Zoë Lopéz was nominated to fill. The board unanimously voted her into the position.

It was decided, after discussion, to continue rotating section meetings throughout the state; however, we will hone in on a smaller "radius" so as to improve the likelihood of attendance.

The next meeting will be held August 16, 2018 location TBD.

Motion to Adjourn made by Jen, seconded by Zoë.

Submitted by Jen Schureman